

# NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

Wednesday, December 5, 1860.

## THE MESSAGE.

The President's annual message was read in both branches of Congress yesterday. Exactly one-half of it relates to the position of affairs at the South, and especially in South Carolina, and it is this part of the message, which will chiefly arrest the attention of the country.

It is long and contradictory, with many shades of meaning, and, unlike the colors of the rainbow, blending into a most inharmonious whole.

On the one side, is an arraignment of the North, equalling in passionate malignity, the worst efforts of President Pierce. On the other side, is the assertion that the slave States have not a single act, executive or legislative, to complain of in the Government which they threaten to overthrow, and no good reason to apprehend such acts hereafter.

He distinctly denies the right of secession as a constitutional remedy. He treats it as a revolutionary right, to be regarded as justifiable, or not, according to circumstances.

Upon the urgent and practical question, whether he means to enforce the collection of custom-house duties in States attempting to secede, he is not clear. For the present, he says that the collection of such duties in South Carolina is not resisted. But everybody believes that it soon will be, and how Mr. Buchanan intends to act in that emergency, probably so near at hand, is left in a most ambiguous uncertainty. Holding that he must at all hazards execute the laws, and at the same time, that the use of force against a State was not contemplated in framing the Constitution, he has involved himself in an entanglement, of which the solution is by no means easy.

His practical recommendation for the termination and cure of slavery agitation, is, like most of the specifics advised within our recollection, homeopathic in principle. He proposes to cure agitation by increasing agitation, and to keep the subject out of Congress, by permitting nothing else to be talked about. Instead of advising that the Senate and House should proceed to the business of the country, he advises that they take up for debate three proposed amendments of the Constitution, either one of which would consume the whole three months, from this time to the fourth of March. The negro, in all actual and possible aspects, is to be discussed and settled first by Congress, and then by thirty-three States, acting upon proposed amendments. By the time this operation is well finished, we shall have a confusion, in comparison with which the present period is one of peace and harmony. This part of the message would be ridiculous, if the attendant circumstances did not make it melancholy.

MISSISSIPPI.—Among the recent recommendations of the Governor of this State, is the prohibition of the bringing in of slaves for sale under any circumstances whatever, or of their introduction, except by and with their owners moving into the State with the view of becoming residents and citizens. This recommendation is probably now made with the purpose of coercing the border slave States into the proposed Southern Confederacy, but it is, nevertheless, only a revival of the laws of Mississippi as they existed twenty-five years ago. Such laws have, in fact, always existed in more or less of the Southern States. They were enacted in respect to Louisiana, by the Congress of the United States, upon the acquisition of that Territory. In practice, they have been evaded and nullified hitherto by the public sentiment of the localities concerned, but this may not prove to be so hereafter. The indefinite continuance of Southern markets for their slaves, cannot be prudently reckoned upon by Virginia and Maryland.

COUNSEL OF VIRGINIA NOT WANTED.—Some person from Virginia sends a communication to the *Charleston Mercury*, pledging the eastern part of Virginia to stand by South Carolina in her secession movement, but condemning the expressions of the *Mercury*, that in the eyes of Carolina "Virginia is completely demoralized," &c. He further says:

"Every man's State is dear to him, and how much he may condemn her judgments in council, when he hears her spoken of thus, the warm blood will leap more quickly. If Virginia's overtures should be declined, in the name of our common brotherhood, let it be done in such a way that Virginians, who love not the South and her interests less because they love their own State, may not be estranged from the gallant little State which they look upon as bound to them indissolubly by the recollections of '76."

To which the *Charleston Mercury* replies as follows:

"We thank our correspondent for the above kind assurance of the sympathy and support of Eastern Virginia. He will pardon us, however, if we still decline (so far as the counsel of the *Mercury* is concerned) to enter at this time into any Convention or council with Virginia, or any other State. We are now acting for ourselves, and by ourselves, upon our own responsibility. Our correspondent will also pardon us if we doubt the ability, at this time, of any border State to give us good counsel, or to assist in forwarding our action. We have used for no other counsel or assistance, and will accept of none other."

PERSONAL LIBERTY LAWS.—The *Charleston Mercury*, of December 3, says:

"But we are to delay action further, to see if the Northern Legislatures will not repeal their personal liberty laws. So far as the cotton States are concerned, these laws, excepting in the insult they convey to the South, and the faithlessness they indicate in the North, are not of the slightest consequence. Few or none of our slaves are lost, by being carried away and protected from recapture in the Northern States. Nor to the frontier States are they of much consequence. Their slaves are stolen and carried off, not by the agency of these personal liberty laws, but by the combination of individuals in the Northern States."

RETURNED FROM CALIFORNIA.—Among the passengers arrived at New York on Monday, in the steamer *Northern Light*, from California, were the Hon. Beverly Johnson and wife, of Baltimore; Senators Benjamin, Gwin, and Baker, Col. Lander, Maj. Wyse, and a number of other army officers.

## THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS, Second Session.

Tuesday, December 4, 1860.

### SENATE.

After our report closed yesterday—Mr. Clingman moved that the message be printed. He thought it full of an investigation of the crisis before the Government. The President elect was known to be a dangerous man, because he avowed the principle of the "irrepressible conflict" party, with the view of making war upon his section. Though the present position of parties in Congress held him powerless, his party would eventually control the Government, the Supreme Court included. A sectional majority absolutely has control of the whole Government, and it might begin a revolution.

He did not think any of the Southern States had acted precipitately. If such occurrences as have taken place in the last fifteen years had been with a foreign nation, we would have been at war before this. In his judgment, a number of the Southern States would secede within sixty days. The South Carolina submission party was small.

The wisest thing that Congress could do would be to divide the public property as fairly as possible after paying the public debts. My people are not terrified—we have more territory now than the colonies who began the war with Great Britain. We have four times their population. Our imports last year amounted to \$30,000,000. Northern gentlemen say our institutions are a disgrace to the family, and they want to have them removed. They say it is a sin to hold slaves. If we separate, their consciences will be clear.

He agreed with the President, that there is no power in the Government to force a State to remain in the Union. The most offensive aggression would be to levy tribute, and if a separation takes place, all the slave States would be quiet and peaceable. They were carrying out the policy of the fathers of the revolution.

Mr. Crittenden replied, that he had hoped they had come together as a union of friends. He hoped, for himself, that the Union he has long lived under would be preserved. He rose for the purpose of expressing a hope that the example of the gentleman from North Carolina would not be followed. Better not come here at all than thus act. This Union was worthy of great sacrifices and concessions. He looked forward with dismay at the prospect of disunion—with fear and trembling. They must search for the means of reconciliation, and endeavor to restore harmony. He did hope there would be no angry debates. North Carolina has always carried the olive branch of peace.

Mr. Clingman approved the desire expressed to preserve the Union. He would be sustained in what he had said by a majority of the people of his State. North Carolina was next to the last to come into the Union, and when the Union ceases to protect her, she will bid good-by.

Mr. Fitch moved that the usual number (ten thousand) of copies of the message be printed. Mr. Hale moved to adjourn, which was carried.

### HOUSE.

The message having been read, Mr. Sherman moved that it be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. Supposing that there was no desire to debate to-day, he moved the previous question.

Mr. Boteler offered the following resolution, trusting, he said, that it would meet the approbation of the House:

"Resolved, That so much of the President's message as relates to the present perilous condition of the country be referred to a special committee of one from each State, with leave to report at any time."

Mr. McClelland wished to move an amendment, and amid repeated calls it was read as follows:

"Resolved, That so much of the President's annual message as relates to matters of grievance between the slaveholding States, and the proposal by Congress of amendments to the Constitution of the United States for the ratification of the several States, and to the question of State secession from the Federal Union, be referred to a select committee, to consist of one from each State, to be appointed by the Speaker; and that such committee be instructed to inquire into and report by bill, or by proposing an amendment or amendments to the Constitution of the United States, or otherwise, upon such subjects; and particularly whether any further legislation or amendment to the Constitution is necessary to give prompt, certain, and full effect to the last clause of the second section of the fourth article of the Constitution concerning the return of fugitives from service or labor."

Mr. Boteler declined to accept Mr. McClelland's amendment.

Mr. Sherman proposed to Mr. Boteler, that instead of a select committee of one from each State, there should be a committee of fifteen.

Mr. Bocock raised a question of order with reference to the last part of Mr. Boteler's resolution. A committee could not report at any time without a suspension of the rules.

The Speaker decided that the question was well taken.

Mr. Bocock, at the request of several friends, withdrew his objection.

Mr. Stanton supposed that Mr. Boteler could accomplish his object by omitting the last clause of his resolution.

Messrs. Curry and Burnett renewed the objection.

Mr. Boteler modified his resolution by striking out the words, "with leave to report at any time."

Mr. Sherman wished to offer an amendment, leaving the House to decide as to the mode of organizing the proposed committee.

Mr. Boteler replied, that he had specially avoided saying how the committee should be raised.

The Speaker said that the rules provided that the Speaker shall appoint committees, unless otherwise ordered.

Mr. Morris, of Illinois, wished to offer an amendment, which he read for information, as follows:

"Resolved, That we are unalterably and immovably attached to the Union of the States; that we recognize in the Union the primary cause of our present greatness and prosperity as a nation, and have as yet seen nothing, either in the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency, or from any other source, to justify its dissolution; and that we pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor, to maintain it."

Objection was made, Mr. Boteler's resolution being distinctly before the House.

Mr. Burnett suggested that each committee be selected by the State delegations.

[Cries of "No," "No."] "That is contrary to the rules."

Mr. Kunkel suggested, that instead of the words, "perilous state of the country," that Mr. Boteler incorporate in his resolution the language contained in Mr. McClelland's proposition, so that the House might specifically know what is to be referred to the committee.

The question was then on agreeing to Mr. Boteler's resolution, as an amendment to Mr. Sherman's motion.

Before the vote was announced, Mr. Singleton, of Mississippi, said he declined voting on this question, because the Legislature of his State had called a Convention to consider the matter. He believed that the people would determine it for themselves.

Mr. Jones, of Georgia, remarked that his reason for not voting was, that his State had also called a Convention to decide as to her Federal relations, and did not want Congress to decide for her.

Mr. Hawkins, of Florida, said his State had appointed some day in January for a State Convention to take into consideration this very question. The people of Florida had decided to settle, in Convention, the time, manner, and mode of redress. It was for them, and they will settle the question in their sovereign capacity. It was not for him, therefore, to take any action here upon the subject. He was against all compromise now, as he was in times past.

Mr. Morris, of Illinois, rose to a point of order, that while the question was pending, it was out of order to open debate.

Mr. Clifton, of Alabama, also declined to vote, because his State had called a Convention.

Mr. Gartrell, of Georgia, said he did not rise to debate, but simply to say, for a similar reason as just assigned, he declined voting for this proposition.

Mr. Houston, of Alabama, said he would do all he could to accomplish great ends for the country, and as this resolution was directed to such a purpose, he should vote for it.

Mr. Curry, of Alabama, next addressed the Chair.

The Speaker inquired: Does the gentleman desire to vote?

Mr. Curry. No, sir. I wish to say—

The Speaker, interrupting. Objection has been made to debate.

Mr. Curry. I was present when my name was called, and—

Mr. Millson, at this point, objected to all discussion, because it was out of order.

Mr. Curry, resuming his seat, remarked: I never violate the rules of the House.

Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, wished to say that the President's message has to be referred somewhere, and therefore he favored a select committee.

Mr. Moore, of Alabama, said the reason given by his colleague [Mr. Clifton] for not voting, was the same why he would not vote.

Mr. Cobb, of Alabama, remarked, that the reasons assigned by his colleagues were not powerful enough for him, so he would hang on to his vote in favor of the resolution. [Laughter.]

Mr. Miles, of S. C., said his State was out of the Confederacy, except the mere form, and therefore his delegation took no interest in this question.

[This remark was received with marked good humor.]

Mr. Pugh, of Ala., said that, as his State was going to follow South Carolina on the 10th of January, he would, like Mr. Miles, decline to vote.

The result on the adoption of Mr. Boteler's resolution was then announced, as follows:

Yeas 145, nays 38, viz:

Yeas—Messrs. Adams of Mass., Adams of Ky., Adair, Aldrich, Allen, Alley, Anderson of Mo., Anderson of Ky., Avery, Babbitt, Barr, Barnett, Bocock, Boteler, Bouigny, Branch, Bratton, Briggs, Bristow, Brown, Burch, Burnett, Campbell, Carter, Horace F. Clark, Clark of Mo., Cobb, John Cochrane, Colfax, Conklin, Corwin, Covode, Cox, Curtis, Davis of Md., Davis of Ind., Davis of Miss., De Jarnette, Delano, Duell, Dunn, Edmundson, Eliot, Ely, English, Etheridge, Ferry, Florence, Foster, Fouke, French, Gilmer, Gooch, Graham, Gurley, Hale, Hall, Hardeeman, Harris of Md., Harris of Va., Haakins, Hatton, Helmick, Hill, Hoard, Holman, Houston, Howard of Ohio, Hughes, Humphrey, Jenkins, Junkin, Kellogg of Ill., Kenyon, Kilgore, Killinger, Kunkel, Larrabee, Leach of N. C., Leake, Logan, Longrecker, Love, Maclay, Martin of Ohio, Martin of Va., Maynard, McClelland, McKenry, McPherson, Miller, Moore of Ky., Moorhead, Morrill, Morris of Penn., Morris of Ill., Nelson, Niblack, Nixon, Noel, Palmer, Pendleton, Pettit, Peyton, Phelps, Porter, Pryor, Quarles, Reynolds, Rice, Riggs, Robinson of Ill., Royce, Rust, Sickles, Smith of Va., Smith of N. C., Somes, Spaulding, Stevenson, Stewart of Md., Stewart of Penn., Stokes, Stout, Stratton, Thayer, Theaker, Thomas, Train, Trimble, Vallandigham, Vance, Vandever, Verree, Walton, Washburn of Maine, Webster, Whitely, Windom, Winslow, Wood, and Woodruff—145.

Nays—Messrs. Ashley, Beale, Bingham, Blair, Blake, Buffinton, Burlingame, Burham, Casey, Case, Edgerton, Fenton, Grow, Hickman, Howard of Michigan, Hutchins, Irwin, Kellogg of Michigan, Leach of Michigan, Lee, Loomis, Lovejoy, McKean, McKnight, Morse, Perry, Potter, Tappan, Sedgwick, Sherman, Stanton, Stevens, Tamm, Tompkins, Wade, Washburn of Wisconsin, Washburne of Illinois, and Wells—38.

Absent or not voting: Messrs. Ashmore, Barkdale, Bonham, Boyce, Bralson, Butler, field, Clemens, Clifton, Clark B. Cochrane, Craig of Missouri, Craige of North Carolina, Crawford, Curry, Davidson, Dawes, Dimmick, Edwards, Farnsworth, Garnett, Gartrell, Hamilton, Hawkins, Hindman, Jones, Keitt, Lamar, Landrum, Maclay, Marston, McQueen, McKee, Miles, Millard, Montgomery, Moore of Alabama, Olin, Pugh, Reagan, Reynolds, Ruffin, Scott, Stanton, Simms, Singleton, Stallworth, Taylor, Underwood, Van Wyck, Waldron, Wilson, Woodson, and Wright—52.

The House agreed to Mr. Sherman's original motion that the message be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and be printed, together with Mr. Boteler's amendment thereto, namely:

"That so much of it as relates to the present perilous condition of the country be referred to a select committee of one from each State."

No question was taken on any other proposition than the one above mentioned.

Mr. Boteler wished to say one word. He knew it was the universal custom of the House for the Speaker to appoint as chairman the mover of a proposition for a select committee.

He wished it understood, in justice to himself and to the great objects he had in view, that he could not serve on the committee. He had no idea of it.

Mr. Morris, of Illinois, asked leave to introduce his resolution (above printed) as a separate and independent proposition.

Mr. Ruffin, of North Carolina, and others, strenuously objected to the introduction of the resolution.

Mr. Morris, of Illinois, hoped that the objections would be withdrawn, so as to come to a direct vote.

The resolution was again read.

Mr. Phelps objected to its introduction, and moved an adjournment; which was carried.

Wednesday, December 5, 1860.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order to-day at precisely 12 M. A prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Dr. Gurley. Mr. Pugh appeared this morning, and took his seat.

The Journal was read, and a slight verbal correction suggested by Mr. Clingman.

The report of the Treasury was presented, and, on motion of Mr. Hale, laid on the table. Mr. Hale made a motion in relation to the

report of the Mississippi railroad, and requested it be printed. Granted.

Mr. Powell moved that so much of the President's message as relates to the state of the country be referred to a special committee.

Mr. Green presented a resolution, that the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of establishing military posts along the line of the border States, in order more effectually to carry out the laws of the country at the present crisis; laid over.

Mr. Cameron moved that next Monday be the day for the order on the appropriation bill.

Mr. Lane wished to say a few words in relation to the unhappy condition of the country.

It is not very strange that such a state of things should exist. The simple reason why any man is elected is not sufficient reason why a State should secede; but shall the equality of rights be maintained? The verdict has been that it shall not prevail.

The platform of the opposition is, as I look at it, directly in opposition to the Constitution, and a violation of its very spirit.

The equality must be maintained or the Union ought not to exist.

I would do anything to save the Union. If the opinion of the Supreme Court of our fathers could be given at this time, they would say that the election of Lincoln was not constitutional.

[Mr. Hale. No doubt of it.]

The South ought not to submit to it. We should not be very ready to receive their promises. I know their underground feelings. There must be a change.

Mr. Latham presented the credentials of Col. E. D. Baker, elected from Oregon, which were read.

Mr. Hale had hoped the message would have pleased somebody. It asserts, first that South Carolina has just cause to secede, and secondly, that she has no right to, and thirdly, we cannot prevent it.

I think he ought to have recommended some plan. I hope we shall have the manliness to look that matter in the face.

Mr. Brown said that all we ask is to quietly leave. We will not submit. We expect nothing, we ask for nothing but the privilege to leave.

Mr. Iverson is speaking as we go to press, taking nearly the same grounds as Mr. Brown.

HOUSE.

Prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Rev. Thomas H. Stockton.

After the reading of the Journal of yesterday—

Mr. Sherman introduced the invalid pension and Military Academy appropriation bills.

Mr. Grow's homestead bill was then taken up and read.

The question recurred on the motion of Mr. Phelps, of Missouri, to lay on the table the motion of Mr. Grow, to reconsider the vote by which the homestead bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The vote on Mr. Phelps's motion was taken by yeas and nays; and resulted—yeas 68, nays 135.

The question recurred on the motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The question on the motion to reconsider was then put, and it was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Grow then stated that he would not proceed to discuss this bill, unless gentlemen on the other side desired it. A point of objection with the President had been, that Congress possessed no power to dispose of the public lands; Congress had already disposed of one hundred and eighty million acres of the public lands. There was no such point as this, however, involved in the question. The advocates of this bill did not propose to give away the public lands, though even Andrew Jackson favored that measure. But Congress might put the lands at any price. This bill proposed making the lands pay for themselves.

Without discussing these points any further, however, he would call for the previous question on the passage of the bill.

The main question was then ordered to be put.

The yeas and nays were called for, which, being taken, resulted as follows: yeas 132, nays 76.

Mr. Colfax called up the Post Office bill, and moved that it be referred to the Post Office Committee.

Mr. Smith, of Va., objected.

Mr. Sherman moved that the House proceed under the 130th rule, to call for bills and resolutions from the States.

Mr. Kunkel, of Md., objected.

The Speaker overruled the objection.

Mr. Sherman withdrew that motion, and that instead, the House go into the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and that the military appropriation be made the special order.

He then moved that the different parts of the President's message be referred to the respective committees. Agreed to.

The military appropriation bill was then read. Pending which, our report closed.

Choice Groceries, Teas, Wines, and Liquors.

THE undersigned respectfully calls the attention of his friends and the public to his large and complete stock of Groceries, Teas, Wines, and Liquors, which have been purchased recently on the most favorable terms, and will be disposed of at a very small advance. His Teas are selected by one of the oldest and most experienced importers in the country, which enables him always to furnish his customers with a superior article. A very fine article of Oolong Tea always on hand, at fifty cents per pound. Purchasers will do well to call and see before purchasing elsewhere.

JOSEPH W. DAVIS,  
Corner of Ninth and E sts.

EDMUND F. BROWN,  
Notary Public, Commissioner of the Court of Claims and for the State of California, and Attorney for business in the several Departments.

IS prepared to take Depositions for the Court of Claims, and the Courts in the several States and Territories; and also to act as Counselor and Attorney for business before the different Departments of Government.

Deeds, Wills, and other Writings, prepared, and Acknowledgments taken.

Office, 402 F street, next to Seventh street, opposite the Post Office and Patent Office.

dec 4—2aw3m

GOSHEN BUTTER AND CHEESE.

I WILL have in store in a day or two Choice GOSHEN BUTTER AND CHEESE, of as fine quality as can be had, to which I invite the attention of purchasers.

JESSE B. WILSON,  
327 Pa. av., between Sixth and Seventh streets, south side.

nov 26

PHILADELPHIA CONFECTIONERY.

ICE CREAM, Water Ices, Wedding Cakes, Pound Cakes, Mince Pies, Pastry, Crusts for Oyster Pies, Jellies, and a general assortment of nice things in the Confectionery line, at FUSSELL'S, corner of Twelfth and F streets, at the lowest prices.

nov 30—1m

## NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 3.—The election held here to-day for city officers resulted in a tie vote for Mayor. Five Democratic and three Republican aldermen, and fourteen Republican and fourteen Democratic councilmen were elected.

Fall River, Dec. 3.—E. A. Baffinton, Republican, was re-elected Mayor to-day, with the entire Republican ticket for the city council.

New Bedford, Dec. 3.—Isaac C. Tober, Citizen's candidate, was elected Mayor, with a large majority of the city council on the same ticket.

Lawrence, Dec. 3.—Joseph R. Baker, Republican, was elected mayor by 400 majority. The city council is Republican.

SENATOR HUNTER ON THE CRISIS.

Senator Hunter, of Va., in a letter published in the *Richmond Examiner*, admits the right of a State to secede, but contends that it ought not to take place when secession must be immediate to be a remedy at all; thinks that Lincoln's election ought not to cause a disruption without first using every proper means to preserve a constitutional Union; favors a conference among the Southern States, to agree upon guarantees to be proposed; and argues that if the Union is dissolved, the border Southern States should unite with the other Southern States.

CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Bridgeport, Dec. 3.—At the town election to-day, the Democrats carried the board of selectmen and a majority of the other town officers. The average Democratic majority is thirty.

Norwalk, Dec. 3.—At our town election to-day, the People's ticket, composed of Democrats and Republicans, was successful by a large majority.

FIRE AT READING, PA.

Reading, Dec. 3.—The extensive book, stationery, and newspaper store, of H. A. Lantz, caught fire on Saturday night, and the contents entirely destroyed. Mr. Lantz's loss is about \$18,000. Insured for \$15,000. Mr. Hoffman, the owner of the property, sustains a loss of \$2,000, which is fully insured.

FIRE AT OSWEGO—LOSS \$40,000.

Oswego, N. Y., Dec. 3.—A fire, last night, destroyed the Washington Block, consisting of four stories, Washington Hall, offices, &c.; also two other stores adjoining, and stables, and a liquor store in the rear. The loss on the buildings is some \$20,000—insured for \$15,000.

THE KANSAS TROUBLES.

Bohler, Mo., Dec. 3.—Col. J. T. Snyder, commanding officer of this district, who was sent to the border by special order of the Government, returned last night, and reports all quiet on the line. He says the State has not been invaded, nor is there any probability at present of its invasion. But sixteen of Montgomery's men approached Fort Scott at any one time, and no one there was molested in the least.

No attempt, he says, was made to hold the United States District Court, and there was no occasion for the court to leave the Territory.

Montgomery and Jennison have thus far hung Scott, Hines, and Harrison, and shot Bishop and Moore, all belonging to the Territory.